

Claims:

1. (previously amended) A method of reforming diesel fuel, comprising:
supplying a liquid fuel consisting essentially of diesel fuel to a fractional distillation device in fluid communication with a reformer;
fractionally distilling said diesel fuel to produce a light fuel stream and a heavy fuel stream; and
reforming said light fuel stream in said reformer to produce a reformat.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising burning said heavy fuel stream in a burner to generate thermal energy.
3. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein said reformer comprises a steam reformer.
- 4 - 17. (cancelled)
18. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said diesel fuel comprises hydro-treated diesel fuel.
19. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said reformer comprises an endothermic reformer.
- 20-25. (cancelled)
26. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing ~~utilizing~~ the reformat ~~in~~ to a solid oxide fuel cell to produce electricity.
27. (previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said reformat comprises synthesis gas.

28. (previously presented) A method of reforming diesel fuel, comprising:
supplying a liquid fuel consisting essentially of diesel fuel to a fractional
distillation device in fluid communication with a reformer;

fractionally distilling said diesel fuel to produce a light fuel stream and a heavy
fuel stream; and

reforming said light fuel stream in said reformer to produce synthesis gas.

29. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, further comprising
burning said heavy fuel stream in a burner to generate thermal energy.

30. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein said diesel fuel
comprises hydro-treated diesel fuel.

31. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein said reformer
comprises an endothermic reformer.

32. (previously presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein said reformer
comprises a steam reformer.

33. (currently amended) The method of Claim 28, further comprising the
step of providing ~~utilizing~~ the synthesis gas ~~in~~ to a solid oxide fuel cell to produce electricity.

34. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the light fuel
stream comprises compounds having a carbon number of less than about C₁₄, and wherein the
heavy fuel stream comprises compounds having a carbon number of greater than about C₁₅.

35. (currently amended) The method of Claim 2, further comprising the step of using the thermal energy in a vehicle component.

36. (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein the vehicle component is the reformer.

37. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein the light fuel stream comprises compounds having a carbon number of less than about C₁₄, and wherein the heavy fuel stream comprises compounds having a carbon number of greater than about C₁₅.

38. (currently amended) The method of Claim 29, further comprising the step of using the thermal energy in a vehicle component.

39. (previously presented) The method of Claim 38, wherein the vehicle component is the reformer.